ARTICLES TO BE INQVIRED OF VVITHIN THE ARCH-*DEACONRY OF* CHICHESTER.

*IN THE ORDINARY VISI-*tation of the Right Worſhipfull, D. ANDREWES, *Arch-deacon of* Chicheſter.

Anno Domini, 1634.

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The forme of the Oath to be miniſtred to all *and every the Church-wardens and Queſt-men.*

YOu ſhall ſweare, that all affection, fauour, hatred, hope of reward and gaine, or feare of diſpleaſure, or malice ſet aſide, you ſhall upon due conſideration of the Articles giuen you in charge, preſent all and euery ſuch perſon of, or within your Pariſh, as hath committed any offence mentioned in theſe or any of theſe Articles, or which are vehemently ſuſpected, and defamed of any ſuch offence: wherein you ſhall diſcharge your conſciences uprightly, and according to truth; neither of malice preſenting any contrary to truth, nor of corrupt affection ſparing to preſent any, and ſo conceale the truth, hauing in this action God before your eyes, with an earneſt zeale to maintaine truth, and to ſuppreſſe vice: So helpe you God, and his faithfull promiſe contained in his holy Bookes.

God ſaue the King.

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Articles concerning RELIGION, PRAYER and SACRAMENTS.

Heretical and Schismatical opinion.

FIrſt, Whether there be any abiding in or reſorting to your parish, that be knowne to defend or maintaine any Heretical or Schismaticall opinions, contrary to the holy Scriptures of God, or doe openly or ſecretly impugne, or diſlike the publike worſhip of God, or the Rites or Ceremonies now eſtabliſhed in the Church of England?

Abſent from the Church.

2 Item, Whether all and ſingular the inhabitants or dwellers within your parish, doe diligently repaire to your parish Church every Sabbath-day and Holi-day, to morning and euening prayers, according to the orders of the Church of England preſcribed in that behalfe?

Labourers on Sundayes or Holidayes.

3 Item, Whether any perſon or perſons within your parish haue laboured or wrought, or gone to plow or cart vpon any Sabbath-day, or Holiday: or haue prophaned any Sabbath or Holiday by vnlawfull games, drinking and tipling, eſpecially in the time of common prayer?

4 Item, Whether all and euery one in your parish being of the age of 16. yeares, and of diſcretion, haue receiued the holy Communion, thrice at the leaſt this laſt yeare, whereof once at Eaſter or thereabouts?

Outward behauiour at Prayers and Sacraments.

5 Item, Whether all and euery one within your parish doe vſe due reuerence in the time of Diuine ſeruice by the outward geſture of their bodies, in keeping their heads vncouered, in kneeling, ſtanding, and other decent behauiour, as they are enioyned by the 18. Conſtitution, and Canon Eccleſiaſticall?

Children not baptized.

6 Item, Whether any children died within your parish vnbaptiſed and by whoſe default was not the Sacrament of Baptiſme adminiſtred?

Prophanation of Churches.

7 Item, Whether haue you in your Church or Chappell, or Church, or Chappell-yard, any Plaies, Feaſts, Banquets, Suppers, Church-ales, Drinkings, Temporall Courts, or Lets, Lay-iuries, Muſters, or any other prophane vſage, and who are the offendors, or by whom are ſuch abuſes ſuffered?

Articles concerning Miniſters and Preachers of Gods holy Word.

Titul. 2. Obſeruation of the forme of Common Prayer.

FIrſt, whether doth your Miniſter ſay or ſing diuine ſeruice (according to the preſcript forme confirmed by his Maieſties Authority) diſtinctly and reuerently on Sundayes and Holi-

Holi-dayes, Wednesdayes, and Fridayes, and the Eues of euery Sunday and Holiday, and at conuenient and vsuall times of those dayes, and in such place as is meetest for the hearing of the people? and whether your Minister doe obserue the Orders, Rites, and Ceremonies, prescribed in the Booke of Common Prayer, as well in reading of the holy Scripture, and Prayers, as in administration of the Sacraments, without either adding or diminishing to or from the Booke of Common Prayer?

Diligent in execution of his office.

2 Item, Whether he be diligent and carefull, faithfully to execute his Pastorall Office and Function, by reading of the holy Scriptures: and (in case he be an allowed Preacher) whether hauing no lawfull impediment, he doth preach ordinarily: and being not allowed, doth procure Sermons in his Cure, once in euery moneth at the least?

Residence of the Minister.

3 Item, Is he a licensed Preacher, and by whom, is he resident vpon his Benefice or not: if not, then by whom is the Cure serued; is your Curate licensed to serue the said Cure, if yea, then by whom: doth your Curate preach, if yea, then by whom is he licensed so to preach?

Prayer for his Majesty.

4 Item, Doth your Minister before his Sermon, Lecture, or Homily, pray for his Maiesty, giuing him his lawfull title, as in his iust stile, and commend his Highnesse, and our Royall Queene, the Prince, and Princesse, in his prayers to Almighty GOD?

Notorious offendors not to be communicants.

5 Item, Doth your Minister admit any to the holy Communion, that are knowne to be notorious offendors, or any malicious, or openly contentious persons, vntill they be reconciled?

Sober conuersation in Ministers.

6 Item, Doth your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, kepe any suspected woman in his house, is he an incontinent person, giuen to drunkennesse or idlenesse, a haunter of Tauernes, Ale-houses, or suspected places, or one that doth board or lodge in any such place; a dicer, carder, tabler, swearer, or giuen to base or seruile labour, or otherwise doth giue any euill example of life, and whether his apparell be comely and graue, as becommeth his function and calling?

A Register of Christnings, Weddings, and Burials.

7 Item, Doe your Minister and Church-wardens keep a Register of the Christnings, weddings, and burials, according to the prescript forme?

Ministers habites.

8 Item, Doth your Minister in time of Diuine seruice and ministring the Sacraments (being a Graduate) weare a decent

cent and comely ſurplice with large ſléeues, and vpon it a Hood ſutable to his Degrée in the Vniuerſity: and if he be no Graduate, then doth he weare at ſuch times ſuch a ſurplice, as is aboue mentioned?

9 Whether doth your Miniſter and pariſhioners yearely in Rogation wéeke, walke the bounds of your pariſh, according to the ancient cuſtome? Perambulation of the bounds of the Pariſh.

10 Doth your Miniſter catechiſe duely, according to the order ſet downe in the 59. Canon, and whether your pariſhioners doe duly ſend their children and ſeruants (eſpecially ſuch as be no Communicants) to the catechizing: if not, then certifie the Parents and Maſters names of ſuch children and ſeruants not ſent, that a reformation may be had of the great defect in that Religious exerciſe? Catechizing.

11 Whether al houſes, out-houſes, barnes, ſtables, and other buildings belonging to your Parſon, Vicar, or Curate, be kept in ſufficient reparations, or no: if not, what are the decayes and defects thereof, preſent the ſame and euery part thereof?

Articles concerning the Church.

FIrſt, haue you in your Church or Chappell, the booke of common prayer, by the Kings Maiеſty confirmed, according to the Lawes of this Realme; a Bible of the largeſt volume and laſt tranſlation; the booke of Homilies allowed by authority; a decent Communion Table, with a decent cloth and couer for the ſame, a comely Pulpit, a cloth and cuſhion for the ſame: a faire Communion Cup, a decent font-ſtone, wherein Baptiſme onely is adminiſtred; a fine large ſurplice, a coffer with three lockes and keyes, for the Regiſter booke to be ſafely kept: is it there kept, and whether one key be kept by the Miniſter, and the other two by the Church-wardens each of them one, certify the truth hereof? *Titul.* 3. Bookes and other implements of the Church.

2 Item, Is your Church-yard kept ſwéet and cleane, and are ſwine and all other cattell kept out of the ſame, and is it well and ſufficiently repaired, fenced and maintained with walles, Railes, or Pales, as hath béene in each place accuſtomed?

3 Item, Is your Church or Chappell, with all parts belonging thereunto decently kept in good and ſufficient Reparation as becommeth the houſe of God: if not, what are the decayes, and are the decayes thereof preuented, ſo much as may be: if not, by whoſe default is the ſame hindred or not done? Church to be repaired.

Articles concerning Church-wardens, and Side-men.

Titul. 4. The choice of Church-wardens, and their accounts.

FIrſt, are your Church-wardens and Side-men choſen yeerely in ſome day of the Eaſter weeke, according to the Canon, and doe the Church-wardens and Side-men at the end of euery yeare, or within one moneth after (at the moſt,) giue a iuſt and true account (before the Miniſter and the Pariſhioners) of ſuch money, and other things, as they haue receiued and diſburſed?

2 Item, Haue the Church-wardens and Side-men béene diligent and carefull in the execution of their office, to ſée decency and comelineſſe obſerued in the Church, in the time of common prayer, and adminiſtration of the Sacraments, and that euery pariſhioner behaue himſelfe orderly and ſoberly in the Church without diſturbing the Miniſter and Preacher: and ſuffered no idle perſon to abide in the Church yard, or the porch, during the time of Diuine Seruice or Sermon?

Legacies giuen to godly uſes, by whom detained.

3 Item, Doe you know of any Legacies giuen in the laſt Will and Teſtament of any perſon deceaſed, out of his moueable goods to the vſe of the poore, or reparations of the Church, or to either of the Vniuerſities, of Cambridge and Oxford, or Schooles of Learning, or Colledges, for increaſe of vertue and knowledge, or to any other charitable end; what bée thoſe bequeſts; by whom were they giuen; and whether they haue bin paid (to the vſe aforeſaid) by the executors of any teſtators deceaſed: If not, in whoſe poſſeſſion or charge bee they now remaining?

Articles concerning Matrimony.

Titul. 5. Mariage within the Leuiticall Degrees forbidden. Mariage in priuate Mariage without Banes or Licenſe.

FIrſt, are there any in your pariſh together maried within the degrées of Affinity or Conſanguinity, by the Lawes of God forbidden? If yea, then who married them, and by what authority?

2 Item, Hath any Matrimony béene ſecretly celebrated or ſolemnized within any priuate houſe, the banes not hauing bin three ſeuerall Sundayes or Holidayes (in the time of Diuine Seruice) asked, or in the pariſh Church, or any priuate houſe in time prohibited, without licenſe from the Ordinary in that behalfe obtained, who ſo maried them, and what are their names that were ſo maried, and who elſe were preſent at any ſuch mariage?

Maried perſons liuing apart without Diuorce.

3 Item, Be there any perſons in your pariſh coupled together in lawfull manner, that do kéepe apart, and liue aſunder without lawfull diuorce?

Articles concerning Schoole-masters and Curates.

Titul. 6. Schoole-masters not repairing to Church

FIrst, by whom is your Schoole-master (if you haue any) licensed to teach, doth he repaire to his parish Church in time of Common Prayer, and doth instruct and teach his Schollers in the principles of true religion?

Schoole-masters not to be Popish, or contemners of orders.

2 Item, Doth your Schoole-master teach, or is he suspected to teach any of his schollers, in popery, superstition, disobedience, or contempt of the truth, and Christian Religion, now established within this Realme, or to contemne the orders Ecclesiasticall? and is he carefull to see that his schollers doe duly and orderly frequent the Church at prayers time?

Articles concerning the Parishioners, and others of the Laity.

Diligence of Church-wardens and Sidemen.

FIrst, Be there any in your parish which doe affirme, that the forme of Gods worship in the Church of *England*, established by the Law, and contained in the Booke of Common Prayer, is corrupt, superstitious, or vnlawfull, or contemneth any thing in it, what be their names?

Impugners of Rites and Ceremonies.

2 Item, Doe any of your Parishioners mislike of the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church of *England*, by authority confirmed, or doe affirme them to be wicked, Antichristian, superstitious, or such as godly and zealous men may not with a good conscience approue?

3 Item, Haue any vsed themselues vnreuerently towards your Minister, or any other of the Clergy, either by vnreuerent speeches, or other vnseemely behauiour to your knowledge, or as you haue credibly heard?

Contention, Drunkennesse, Vncleannesse.

4 Item, Be there any in your parish that be malicious, contentious, or uncharitable persons, seeking the vniust veration of their neighbours, common swearers, or blasphemers of the name of God, fornicators, adulterers, incestuous persons, bawds or receiuers of such incontinent persons, or harbourers of Women with childe vnmaried, drunkards, ribaulds, or any that be not of good name and fame, touching such crimes or faults?

5 Item, Is there any man or woman in your parish that vseth witch-crafts, sorceries, charmes, or vnlawfull prayer or inuocation, in Latine or English, or otherwise, or any that resorteth to such persons for counsell or for help, and what be their names who doth practise Physick or Chirurgery in the parish: are they licensed thereunto, or not, if yea, then by whom?

6 Is there any of your Parish hauing a preacher to their Minister

Minister that doe absent themselues from his sermons and resort to other places, to heare other Preachers, or doe any dwelling in your parish communicate or baptize their children in any other parish?

7 Haue any in your parish administred the goods of any person dying intestate, without lawfull authority to them granted by the Ordinary, or before they haue proued the Will or Testament of any person deceased that made any Will or Testament? Are there any Wils vnproued, or goods not administred in your parish?

8 What persons be excommunicate in your parish, for what cause were they so excommunicate, how long haue they so stood excommunicate: and doe any of them repaire to your parish Church, or to any other parish Church (to your knowledge) in time of prayer vnabsolued?

9 Haue any excommunicate person or persons béene buried in your Church or Chappell, or Church-yard, if yea, what were their names so buried, by whom were they so buried, and who were present at the same burials?

10 Doe you know of any other matter worthy of presentment, or any person or persons that haue committed any fault or offence contrary to any other his Maiesties Ecclesiasticall Lawes, not set downe or expressed in these Articles? or doe you know of any person or persons that are vehemently suspected for committing any such fault or offence: by vertue of your oathes present the said faults, and the names of the persons that haue committed, or are vehemently suspected for committing the same offences?

Note. There must bee a full and seuerall answer made to euery particular Article and branch thereof. Or else the Churchwardens will be called to the Court, and enioyned to make a full answer to the same Articles, wherein any omission shall bée found.

MEmorandum, it is lawfull for euery Minister (be he Parson, Vicar, or Curate) to present any enormity, or common fame of any enormous crime that shall arise within his Parish. And it is lawfull and meet for euery Minister or Churchwardens, and Side-men, to make notorious offendors knowne to their Ordinaries, as often as occasion is offered, to the end that such offences may in due time be punished and reformed.